CLAIMS

I claim:

1. An angular notched trowel for uniformly applying a bonding material to a substrate, the angular notched trowel comprising:

(a) a top plate having a leading edge, a trailing edge, an upper surface, and a lower surface;

(b) a notched plate having a top edge, a bottom edge, and two sides, the top edge being connected along and descending from the trailing edge of the top plate, the bottom edge containing a plurality of notches, the two sides defining a width, such that during use the bottom edge is dragged across the substrate with the width of the notched plate defining a contacting section on the substrate in front of the notched plate and also defining a spread section on the substrate behind the notched plate;

(c) a handle connected to the upper surface of the top plate; and

(d) a descending member having a top and a bottom, the top of the descending member being connected to the lower surface of the top plate or to the handle, the bottom of the descending member being centrally located below the top plate, such that during use the bottom of the descending member is in the contacting section so that the spread section is substantially free of gaps.

2. The angular notched trowel of claim 1 wherein the notched member has a length such that the notched plate forms an angle to the substrate of about 45 to 90 degrees when the angular notched trowel rests on the substrate with its notched edge and descending member in contact with the substrate.

3. The angular notched trowel of claim 2 wherein the notched plate forms an angle to the top plate of about 90 to 135 degrees.

4. The angular notched trowel of claim 3 wherein the descending member is connected to the lower surface of the top plate directly below the handle.

5. The angular notched trowel of claim 4 wherein the bottom of the descending member is rounded.

6. A method for uniformly applying bonding material to a substrate, the method comprising:

(a) obtaining an angular notched trowel comprising: (i) a top plate having a leading edge, a trailing edge, an upper surface, and a lower surface; (b) a notched plate having a top edge, a bottom edge, and two sides, the top edge being connected along and descending from the trailing edge of the top plate, the bottom edge containing a plurality of notches, the two sides defining a width, such that during use the bottom edge is dragged across the substrate with the width of the notched plate defining a contacting section on the substrate in front of the notched plate and also defining a spread section on the substrate behind the notched plate; (c) a handle connected to the upper surface of the top plate; and (d) a descending member having a top and a bottom, the top of the descending member being connected to the lower surface of the top plate or to the handle, the bottom of the descending member being centrally located below the top plate, such that during use the bottom of the descending member is in the contacting section so that the spread section is substantially free of gaps;

(b) applying the bonding material to the substrate; and

(c) dragging the angular notched trowel across the bonding material.

7. The method of claim 6 wherein the notched member of the angular notched trowel has a length such that the notched plate forms an angle to the substrate of about 45 to 90 degrees when the notched trowel rests on the substrate with its notched edge and descending member in contact with the substrate.

8. The method of claim 7 wherein the notched plate of the angular notched trowel forms an angle to the top plate of about 90 to 135 degrees.

9. The method of claim 8 wherein descending member of the angular notched trowel is connected to the lower surface of the top plate directly below the handle.

10. The method of claim 9 wherein the bottom of the descending member of the angular notched trowel is rounded.